



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS

2 NAVY ANNEX

WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

JRE

Docket No: 2043-99

13 June 2000



Dear [REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10 of the United States Code, section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 25 May 2000. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

The Board found that you enlisted in the Navy on 29 June 1974. On 9 April 1975, you were diagnosed as suffering from a passive aggressive personality, and recommended for discharge by reason of unsuitability. You were not considered to be psychotic or in need of psychiatric care at that time. You received nonjudicial punishment on 17 April 1975, for unauthorized absence from 14 February 1975 to 15 March 1975. You were discharged under honorable conditions on 24 April 1975, by reason of unsuitability based on the aforementioned personality disorder. Following your discharge, the Department of Veterans Affairs denied your requests for service connection for bipolar disorder with depression, and hypertension.

The Board did not accept your unsubstantiated contention to the effect that you suffered from a bipolar disorder which was incurred in or aggravated by your service in the Navy, or that you were unfit for duty because of hypertension. It noted that the marginal elevation of blood pressure noted during your pre-separation physical examination would not have been an impediment to further service had you not been discharged by reason of unsuitability. The Board concluded that your service was properly characterized by a discharge under

honorable conditions in view of the aforementioned absence without authority and nonjudicial punishment, and the absence of positive factors in your record. Accordingly, your application has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

W. DEAN PFEIFFER
Executive Director